

Humboldt County  
Department of Public Works  
Rohnerville Maintenance Station  
Airport Road  
Rohnerville, California

*Notice of Proposed No Further Action* related to petroleum discharges.  
Comment Period ends **June 14, 2003**.

**Background:** The Humboldt County Department of Public Works Rohnerville Maintenance Station is located south of Eureka, California, approximately 20 miles, at the southwest end of Airport Road. In March 1989, three underground storage tanks, formerly used for storage of diesel and gasoline, were removed from the site. Four soil samples were collected from the excavation walls (at depths ranging from between 6 and 7 feet) A fifth sample was collected from the floor of the excavation (at an approximate depth of 10 to 11 feet). Analyses results for the floor sample showed no analytes detected above the reporting limits. Analyses results of the wall samples indicated concentrations of Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPHg) ranged from less than 5 ug/g to 1,600 ug/g. Concentrations of Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons as diesel (TPHd) ranged from less than 10 ug/g to 830 ug/g.

**Soil Remediation:** In 1991, approximately 400 cubic yards of impacted soil was excavated and stored on-site. During 1993 and 1994, the excavated soil was bio-remediated on-site and reused as fill at the adjacent airport with approval from the NCRWQCB.

**Groundwater Investigation:** In February 1990, three monitoring wells and two piezometers were installed at the site. Groundwater was first encountered from approximately 17.5 to 19.5 feet below grade. Measured water levels indicated that groundwater flowed in a northeast to east direction. Quarterly groundwater monitoring activities were conducted between September 1991 and June 1992. Results of the groundwater monitoring program indicate that the only constituent detected was TPHD at a concentration of 90 parts per billion (ppb) in the sample collected on September 1991 from monitoring well MW-2. MW-2 is located 80 feet northeast of the former excavation pit. Except for that one low concentration detection of TPH-D, concentrations of all constituents tested were below laboratory detection limits during four consecutive sampling events at monitoring wells MW-1 and MW-2. Two consecutive sampling events indicated that all tested constituents were below laboratory detection limits in groundwater samples collected at the up-gradient monitoring well MW-3.

On December 5, 2002, groundwater samples were obtained from the three monitoring wells (MW-1, MW-2 and MW-3). All constituents tested were below laboratory detection limits in all samples.

**Soil Lithology:** Located on the gently sloping, Late Pleistocene, Rohnerville terrace, the site is approximately 350 feet above mean sea level. The site is underlain by several feet of gravelly, sandy fill (up to 3 feet). The terrace deposits below the fill consist of interbedded gravels, sands, silts, and clays. Generally clayey silt was encountered from approximately 3 feet to 8-10 feet.

Underlying the silt was sandy, silty and clayey gravels and cobbles. these gravels and cobbles extend to the bottom of the borings. In MW-3, however, a clayey, sandy, gravelly silt was encountered that extended from 13 feet to the bottom of the boring at 23.5 feet. This silt strata was not encountered in any other boring.

**Sensitive Receptors:** The Van Duzen and Eel rivers are approximately 1.5 miles southwest of the site, and approximately 320 feet lower in elevation. The Van Duzen River flows into the Eel River which ultimately flows out into the ocean several miles away. The only wells within a 1,000 feet of the site are monitoring wells at the Rohnerville Airport. These airport monitoring wells are located 320 feet upgradient from the HCDPW Maintenance Station well MW-3.

**Conclusion:** Primary sources, the three USTs containing gasoline and diesel fuel, were removed in 1989. A secondary source, contaminated soil, was bio-remediated on-site in 1994. Monitoring well MW-1 is located down-gradient within twenty feet of the former USTs. Groundwater samples collected from monitoring well MW-1 did not contain detectable concentrations of gasoline or diesel constituents during March 1990, during four consecutive quarterly sampling events in 1991 and 1992, or during the recent December 2002 sampling. It has been fourteen years since the primary source was removed and nine years since the secondary source, contaminated soil, was remediated. December 2002 groundwater analysis results show no contamination exists at the site.

**Proposed Action:** No Further Action is proposed for the site.

**MtBE Status:** Results of lab analysis of groundwater samples collected in December 2002 indicate no MtBE present in groundwater at the site.

**Unless comments are received or new information is presented, Regional Water Board staff plan to concur with no further action upon conclusion of the comment period.** Please contact Ron Allen by telephone at (707) 576-2848 or email at [aller@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov](mailto:aller@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov) for all issues concerning the Rohnerville Maintenance Station site.